

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 11836 021523Z

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SUBJ: CARTER STATEMENTS IN CAIRO PRESS

1. GUMHURRIYA AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE GAZETTE BOTH NOTED GOVERNOR CARTER'S STATEMENT THAT CREATION IS ISRAEL WAS "FULFILLMENT OF BIBLICAL PROPHECY." FORMER GLOSSED OVER IT IN BRIEF PAGE 2 ITEM, WHICH ALSO NOTE HIS COMMITMENT TO ISRAELI SURVIVAL, BUT GAZETTE EDITORIAL REACTED WITH BITTER SARCASM. ARTICLE CLAIMED THAT NO OTHER US PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE "HAS HITHERTO PROSTRATED HIMSELF TO THE ZIONIST" WITH SO MUCH EBULLIENCE. EDITORIAL RIDICULED GOVERNOR'S CONTENTION, ASKING WHICH PROPHECY PREDICTED JEWISH SETTLERS WOULD "MASSACRE SEVERAL HUNDRED PALESTINIANS", STAMPEDE "ANOTHER MILLION OR SO" OUT OF THE COUNTRY AND "STEAL THEIR LAND" FOR FOUNDATION OF JEWISH STATE. GOVERNOR CARTER'S COMMENT THAT ISRAEL CANNOT BE BLAMED FOR PLIGHT OF PALESTINIANS ALSO ATTACKED. EDITORIAL ASKED WHO ELSE COULD BE RESPONSIBLE, AND IF ISRAELIS ARE "MERE TOOLS OF DIVINE WILL." GOVERNOR CARTER'S "RELIGIOUS OR SUPERSTITIOUS BELIEFS" WOULD CONCERN NO ONE IF HE DID NOT MEAN TO ACT ON THEM. SOLUTION HE PROPOSES-"DISPERSAL OF PALESTINIANS" AROUND THE WORLD- CAN ONLY BE REGARDED AS SINISTER.

2. AHRAH ALSO MENTIONS GOVERNOR CARTER "GUARANTEE OF ISRAELI SECURITY"

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PAGE 02 CAIRO 11836 021523Z

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AS PART OF LARGER STORY ON PRESIDENT'S ATTACK ON HIS CALL
FOR U.S. "WITHDRAWAL FROM FOREIGN BASES." GUMHURRIYA ALSO
HAD MAJOR ARTICLE WHICH REVIEWED DEMOCRATIC PARTY PLANK,
OMITTING REFERENCES TO ISRAEL. STORY SURROUND LARGE PHOTO
OF SMILING PRESIDENT FORD,
ARAB PRESS IGNORED GOVERNOR CARTER COMMENTS ON POSSIBLE
FUTURE OF JERUSALEM.

3.
COMMENT: CAIRO PRESS OFTEN GIVES ONLY PASSING COVERAGE TO BAD
NEWS ORIGINATING IN U.S. AND ARAB DAILIES AND FUZZING OVER GOVERNOR
CARTER'S MIDDLE EAST VIEWS NO EXCEPTION. NEVERTHELESS, THESE VIEWS,
IF ACCURATELY REPORTED, ARE LIKELY TO CAUSE INCREASED NERVOUSNESS
OVER FUTURE OF U.S. PRESIDENCY AND EGYPT'S AMERICAN CONNECTION.
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